

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present patent application are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 19, 20, 27, 28, 30 and 42 have been canceled and new claims 53-58 have been added. Claims 1-18, 21-26, 29-38, 40, 41 and 43-58 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 22, 30, 34, 38, and 41 are independent.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 1-18, 21-26, 29-38, 41, 44-47 and 49-51 are allowed, and that claims 40, 43, 48 and 52 would be allowed if certain minor informalities were corrected.

Interview

Examiner Sung is thanked for her time and consideration given to Applicant's representative during the telephone interview on September 22, 2003 wherein the Office Action dated July 29, 2003 was discussed. As noted during the interview, due to an inadvertent typographical error under the "old" amendment practice, wherein a "clean version" of the amended claims was

presented together with an attached "marked-up" version, claims 19, 20, 27, 28, 39 and 42 were mistakenly canceled in the "marked-up" copy. As is clear from the "Remarks" section of the Amendment filed June 9, 2003, claims 1-52 were believed pending. To advance the prosecution at this stage and, since these are dependent claims which depend from allowable claims, the Examiner recommended that new claims 53-58 be added which correspond to the noted canceled claims. Accordingly, Applicants have followed the Examiner's helpful recommendation.

Claim for Priority

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner has recognized the Applicant's claim for foreign priority. In view of the fact that the Applicant's claim for foreign priority has been perfected, no additional action is required from the Applicants at this time.

Drawings

Attached hereto is a replacement page for Figure 4 and 5 wherein the numeral "99" in Figure 5, has been replaced with 89 to be consistent with the specification. This proposed drawing change has already been approved by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Daniel K. Dorsey (Reg. No. 32,520), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment(s): One (1) Replacement Sheet of Drawings